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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : ANDRIANJARA, ET AL. EXAMINER : RAO, D.  
SERIAL NO : 10/075,654 ART UNIT : 1624  
FILED : FEBRUARY 14, 2002 PAPER NO :  
FOR : TRIAZOLO COMPOUNDS AS MMP INHIBITORS

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131  
OF PRIOR INVENTION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

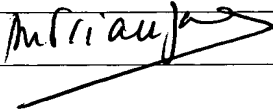
- (1) The subject matter of United States Patent Application Number 10/075,654 ("10/075,654") was also filed in an international counterpart application PCT International Patent Application Number PCT/EP02/01961 ("PCT/EP02/01961").
- (2) PCT/EP02/01961 published as PCT International Patent Application Publication Number WO 02/064595 A1 ("WO 02/064595") on August 22, 2002.
- (3) A copy of WO 02/064595 is enclosed as EXHIBIT A.
- (4) The subject matter of 10/075,654, PCT/EP02/01961, and WO 02/064595 are substantively identical to each other.
- (5) The front page of WO 02/064595 discloses in item (22) that the International Filing Date of PCT/EP02/01961 is February 11, 2002.

(6) The front page of WO 02/064595 discloses in item (75) that the inventors of PCT/EP02/01961 are identical to the inventors of 10/075,654.

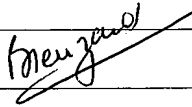
(7) WO 02/064595 is unequivocal evidence that the subject matter of 10/075,654 was invented on or before February 11, 2002.

(8) Accordingly, WO 02/064595 is unequivocal evidence that the subject matter of 10/075,654 was invented prior to February 13, 2002.

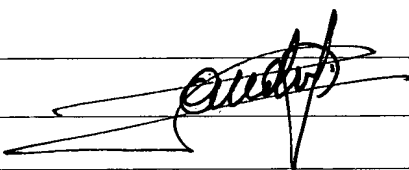
(9) I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

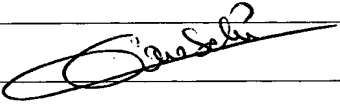
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